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rod having a predetermined straightness, said straightness of which is different from a straightness of said base material; and

heating and elongating said base material along an axis of said standard rod, said vertical inclination of which is adjusted, to generate said glass rod.

Remarks

Claims 1-10 remain active. Claims 11-13 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer as being directed to a non-elected invention. Favorable reconsideration is requested.

Claims 1-10 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) over JP-10-114536.

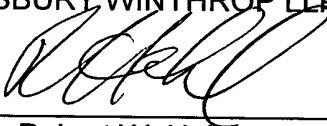
This rejection is based on the Examiner's interpretation of the phrase "standard rod" as reading on the glass rod of the reference. This ground of rejection is overcome by the present amendment.

As the Examiner implied, JP '536 does not actually disclose or suggest the kind of standard rod used in this invention. As amended, the standard rod is recited as being for "adjusting an axis of an apparatus for elongating a base material." Also, the standard rod has "a predetermined straightness," which is clearly different from the straightness of the base material. Thus, the stand rod and the base material are different. Support for claim 1 is found in the specification on page 14, lines 1-1, Fig. 7, and page 16, lines 19-23. No new matter has been added.

Applicants submit that the case is now in condition for allowance. Early notification of such action is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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Appendix

1. (Amended) A method for manufacturing a glass rod, which is a parent material of an optical fiber, comprising:

adjusting an axis of an apparatus for elongating a base material, which is a parent material of said glass rod, by adjusting a vertical inclination of a standard rod having a predetermined straightness, said straightness of which is different from a straightness of said base material; and

heating and elongating said [a] base material [, which is a parent material of said glass rod,] along an axis of said standard rod, said vertical inclination of which is adjusted, to generate said glass rod.